

**MINUTES OF THE
TRANSPORTATION, ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY & NATIONAL GUARD
APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE
Room W010, West Office Building, State Capitol Complex**

Thursday, January 31, 2008

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sen. Carlene Walker, Co-Chair
Rep. Wayne Harper, Co-Chair
Sen. Fred Fife
Rep. Glenn A. Donnelson
Rep. Neil Hansen
Rep. Neal B. Hendrickson
Rep. Todd E. Kiser
Rep. Patrick Painter
Rep. Kenneth Sumsion

MEMBERS ABSENT: Sen. Sheldon Killpack
Sen. John Valentine
Rep. Becky Lockhart

STAFF PRESENT: Mark C. Bleazard, Fiscal Analyst
Rosemary Young, Committee Secretary

Note: A list of visitors and copy of handouts are filed with committee minutes.

Rep. Harper called the meeting to order at 2:19 p.m.

MOTION: Rep. Kiser moved to approve the minutes of the meetings of January 23 and January 24. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Hansen, Rep. Hendrickson, and Rep. Painter absent for the vote.

Department of Transportation

MOTION: Rep. Kiser moved to approve the Aeronautics base budget for FY 2009 in the amount of \$27,246,800. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Hansen, Rep. Hendrickson, and Rep. Painter absent for the vote.

MOTION: Rep. Kiser moved to approve the appropriation of \$1,600,000 from the Transportation Restricted Fund-Aeronautics for the purchase of a King Air C90GT airplane. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Hendrickson and Rep. Painter absent for the vote.

MOTION: Rep. Kiser moved to approve \$2,977,600 from Transportation Funds in FY 2009 for equipment purchases. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Hendrickson and Rep. Painter absent for the vote.

MOTION: Rep. Kiser moved to approve the Equipment Management base budget for FY 2009 in the amount of \$18,364,300. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Hendrickson and Rep. Painter absent for the vote.

MOTION: Rep. Kiser moved to approve the Mineral Lease base budget for FY 2009 in the amount of \$49,669,000 and the following intent language:

It is the intent of the Legislature that the funds appropriated from the Federal Mineral Lease Account shall be used for improvement or reconstruction of highways that have been heavily impacted by energy development.

It is the intent of the Legislature that if private industries engaged in developing the State's natural resources are willing to participate in the cost of the construction of highways leading to their facilities, that local governments consider that highway as a higher priority as they prioritize the use of Mineral Lease funds received through 59-21-1(3)(d). The funds appropriated for improvement or reconstruction of energy impacted highways are non-lapsing.

The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Hendrickson and Rep. Painter absent for the vote.

MOTION: Rep. Kiser moved to approve the Sidewalk Construction base budget for FY 2009 in the amount of \$500,000 and the following intent language:

It is the intent of the Legislature that the funds appropriated from the Transportation Fund for pedestrian safety projects be used specifically to correct pedestrian hazards on State highways.

It is also the intent of the Legislature that local authorities be encouraged to participate in the construction of pedestrian safety devices. The appropriated funds are to be used according to the criteria set forth in Section 72-8-104, Utah code Annotated, 1953. The funds appropriated for sidewalk construction shall not lapse. If local governments cannot use their allocation of Sidewalk Safety Funds in two years, these funds will be available for other governmental entities which are prepared to use the resources. It is the intent of the Legislature that local participation in the Sidewalk Construction Program be on a 75% state and 25% local match basis.

Support Services

Mark Bleazard, Fiscal Analyst, explained that the responsibilities of the Support Services Division and the recommended budgets for FY 2009 are: \$2,187,100 for Administrative Services, \$2,800,700 for Loss Management, \$952,800 for Buildings and Grounds, \$1,537,800 for Human Resources, \$1,210,100 for Procurement, \$9,424,600 for Data Processing, \$2,509,900

for

Transportation, Environmental Quality & National Guard Appropriations Subcommittee
January 31, 2008
Page 3

the Comptroller's Office, \$768,400 for the Internal Auditor, \$573,100 for Community Relations, and \$6,052,000 for the nine Ports of Entry. The total base budget for this line item for FY 2009 is \$28,016,500, of this amount \$27,399,400 is from the Transportation Fund and \$617,100 is from Federal Funds.

Carlos Braceras, Deputy Director, Utah Department of Transportation explained that a variety of materials are kept in a central warehouse at the Calvin L. Rampton Complex from which the programs of the Department can get supplies that are charged to the area where they are used. The budgeted amount for Procurement is for personnel to run the warehouse. The decrease in the Community Relations budget reflected the printing of a map in 2007. All of the areas are held accountable to the budgets that the legislature passes.

Engineering Services

The Analyst reviewed the Engineering Services Division which is responsible for developing Utah highways from an idea stage through the planning and engineering stages until a project is to the point of awarding a contract. The base budget for FY 2009 is \$29,716,400 and is divided as follows: \$8,917,600 for Program Development; \$1,610,600 for Preconstruction Administration; \$847,500 for Environmental Analysis; \$2,439,800 for Structures including geotechnical investigations, hydraulic designs, and bridge safety inspections; \$3,974,200 for Materials Lab; \$2,698,800 for Engineering Services; \$1,903,300 for Right of Way; \$1,929,800 for Research; \$5,030,400 for Construction Management; and \$365,200 for Civil Rights. This is a relatively flat budget including 263.0 FTE. Of the budgeted amount \$17,637,900 is from the Transportation Fund, \$11,428,100 is from Federal Funds, and \$650,400 is from Dedicated Credits.

Carlos Braceras, Deputy Director, explained the process of acquiring right of way. Following the Minneapolis bridge collapse, Utah's bridges were rechecked. Utah has only one bridge of this type which is a low volume bridge in Box Elder County. The final cause of the Minneapolis collapse is unknown, but it is thought that it could have just been a drafting error which resulted in a weaker bridge.

The Analyst presented an issue brief recommending that the committee appropriate \$200,000 one time from the Transportation Fund in FY 2009 to purchase a new X-Ray Fluorescence Spectrometer to replace the current equipment which has become obsolete, and replacement parts are now unavailable.

John Njord, Director of UDOT, responded to the committee that the Engineering Services Division is the central office which is responsible to see that projects are being done

appropriately across the entire state.

Region Management

The Analyst presented the Region Management budget and explained the breakdown of the four region offices and three district maintenance offices. The recommended FY 2009 base budget is \$25,795,900 which includes \$4,982,600 for Region One, \$9,340,300 for Region Two which oversees highways of approximately one half of the State's population, \$4,564,300 for Region Three, \$4,937,100 for Region Four, \$578,900 for the Richfield Maintenance District, \$634,000 for Price Maintenance District, and \$758,700 for Cedar City Maintenance District. The sources of these funds are: \$21,259,800 from the Transportation Fund, \$3,305,100 from Federal Funds, and \$1,231,000 from Dedicated Credits. The FTE complement is 264.5.

Director Njord pointed out to the committee that the people in this department are the ones who deal directly with the public in their respective areas. He also advised the committee that the department may need a larger presence in St. George in the future.

The department presented a short video to the committee showing the techniques of Accelerated Bridge Construction as it was used to replace the 4500 South bridge over I-215. A handout was distributed containing an article from a federal highways publication concerning this bridge replacement. There was a discussion of the additional cost required to beautify the recent projects. The contractors bring the ideas, and the cost is only the cost of an additional inch of concrete, in other words: minimal cost. The piece of equipment used to move the 4500 South bridge is worth about \$16,000,000 and was subcontracted by the contractor for this project.

MOTION: Rep. Hendrickson moved to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Hansen absent for the vote.

Rep. Harper adjourned the meeting at 3:24 p.m.

Rep. Wayne Harper, Co-Chair

Sen. Carlene Walker, Co-Chair